

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are requested for claims 3, 4, and 6-8 in view of the following remarks.

Status of the Application

Claims 3, 4, and 6-8 are pending in this application. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Japanese patent publication no. 2002286479 A to Hitoshi (the “Hitoshi publication”). Claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hitoshi publication in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0203916 to Chun *et al.* (the “Chun publication”). Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hitoshi publication in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,856,892 to Oda *et al.* (the “Oda patent”). Claims 1, 4, 5, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hitoshi publication in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0088110 to Suzuki (the “Suzuki publication”). Claims 1, 2, and 5 have been canceled. Claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 have been amended. Claim 8 has been added.

The specification was objected to due to informalities. The specification has been amended. The abstract was objected to. The abstract has been amended. Figures 2, 5, 8, and 10-12 were objected to. Corrected versions of Figures 5 and 8 are being submitted herewith.

Amendment to the Specification

The specification was objected to with respect to the descriptions of Figures 14-16 on pages 6 and 7. In response to this objection, the specification has been amended. No new matter has been added.

The specification was also objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for claims 1-5. Claims 1, 2, and 5 have been canceled. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended.

Amendment to the Abstract

An new Abstract of the Disclosure is attached to this Reply.

Amendment to the Drawings

Replacement Sheets for Figures 5 and 8 are attached to this Reply along with corresponding Annotated Sheets. With respect to the objection to Figures 2 and 10-12, Applicants state that the descriptions of the various part numbers in these figures are consistent with those in the respective portions of the specification. For example, in Figure 2, vehicle speed 1308 and state of communication 1309 are listed in the specification at page 11. For Figure 10, vehicle speed 1318 and state of communication 1319 are listed in the specification at page 42. In Figure 11, scroll bar 1340 and time 1344 are listed in the specification at page 43. And, in Figure 12, scroll bar 1313 is listed in the specification at page 44. For at least these reasons, the objections to Figures 2 and 10-12 should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 2 has been canceled.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

According to the Examiner, the Hitoshi publication discloses each of the elements of independent claim 1. Claim 1 has been canceled, and claims 6 and 7 have been amended to depend from new claim 8. Applicants respectfully assert that claim 8 is patentable over the Hitoshi publication, and, as a result, claims 6 and 7 are patentable as well.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

According to the Examiner, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of the Hitoshi publication with that of the Chun publication to obtain the subject matter of claims 1, 2, and 6. Claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled, and claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 8. Applicants respectfully assert that the Hitoshi publication and the Chun publication, either alone or in combination, do not disclose the subject matter of claim 8. As claim 6 depends from claim 8, it is also patentable over the combination of the Hitoshi publication and the Chun publication.

In addition, according to the Examiner, it would be obvious to combine the teachings of the Hitoshi publication with that of the Oda patent to obtain the subject matter of claims 1 and 3. Claim 1 has been cancelled, and claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 8. Applicants respectfully assert that the Hitoshi publication and the Oda patent, either alone or in combination, do not

disclose the subject matter of claim 8. As claim 3 depends from claim 8, it is also patentable over the combination of the Hitoshi publication and the Oda patent.

Furthermore, according to the Examiner it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of the Hitoshi publication with the Suzuki publication to obtain the subject matter of claims 1, 4, 5, and 7. Claims 1 and 5 have been canceled, and claims 4 and 7 have been amended to depend from claim 8.

Applicants respectfully assert that the Hitoshi publication and the Suzuki publication, either alone or in combination, do not disclose the subject matter of claim 8. As claims 4 and 7 depend from claim 8, they are also patentable over the combination of the Hitoshi publication and the Suzuki publication.

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If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056208.55952US).

Respectfully submitted,

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